

In re: Koivukunnas *et al.*  
Appl. No.: 10/047,054  
Filed: January 14, 2002  
Page 2

are earnestly solicited in light of the remarks that follow. Claims 1-15 are pending. As indicated in the Office Action, Claims 1-15 have been rejected. In response to the Office Action, Claim 1 has been amended as suggested by the Examiner. The amendments to the claim find support throughout the Specification and the Drawings and no new matter has been added.

#### Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-15 were rejected in the Office Action as being indefinite. In response, Claim 1 has been amended as suggested by the Examiner.

#### Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103

Claims 1-6, 9, 11, and 13 were rejected in the Office Action as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 3,732,430 to Hujer *et al.* or U.S. Patent No. 4,194,840 to Lucas *et al.*, while Claims 1, 2, 9, and 11-13 were rejected in the Office Action as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,074,531 to Hultcrantz *et al.* In addition, Claims 1-15 were rejected in the Office Action as being obvious over any of the Hujer '430, Lucas '840, and Hultcrantz '531 references, while at least Claims 1, 2, 5, 8, 9, and 14 were rejected in the Office Action as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 3,868,851 to Breyer.

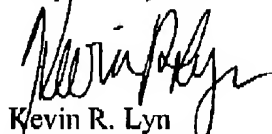
In response to these rejections, Claim 1, upon which Claims 2-15 depend either directly or indirectly, has been amended to clearly define that the arrangement is in a paper making machine and that the plane-like support surface is unmoving, as suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, as indicated by the Examiner in the Office Action under *Indication of Allowable Subject Matter*, amended Claim 1 is now allowable over the Hujer '430, Lucas '840, Hultcrantz '531, and Breyer '851 references cited in the Office Action. As such, Claims 1-15 are believed to be in condition for immediate allowance.

In conclusion, for the reasons set forth above, the Applicant submits that all claims now pending are in condition for immediate allowance. Accordingly, notice to such effect is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest opportunity.

In re: Koivukunnas *et al.*  
Appl. No.: 10/047,054  
Filed: January 14, 2002  
Page 3

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,

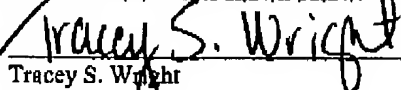


Kevin R. Lyn  
Registration No. 42,818

Customer No. 00826  
**ALSTON & BIRD LLP**  
Bank of America Plaza  
101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000  
Charlotte, NC 28280-4000  
Tel Raleigh Office (919) 862-2200  
Fax Raleigh Office (919) 862-2260

CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the US Patent and Trademark Office at Fax No. 1-703-305-7115 on the date shown below.

  
Tracey S. Wright

6/5/03  
Date

RTA 2137796v